

In Memory of
U.S. Navy Teleman Third Class
Maynard Gerald Baker
Rapid City, South Dakota
Pennington County

November 28, 1931 – April 28, 1953
Died in an Automobile Accident in San Francisco



Maynard Gerald Baker was born on November 28, 1931, at New England, North Dakota. He went to school at Igloo and Bison but graduated from Hot Springs High School in 1949. Before he graduated, he joined the National Guard on January 15, 1948, at Hot Springs, and that summer completed field training at Camp Rapid. The summer following his graduation from high school, Maynard completed more field training at Camp Ripley in Minnesota and was then honorably discharged from the National Guard. During the summer of 1949, he was at home in Rapid City with his mother, Irene, and his step-father, Merritt Rousey.

On October 1, 1949, Maynard Baker enlisted in the Navy at Omaha, Nebraska, and in early 1950 was assigned to the *USS General William Mitchell* and served on it in the Pacific and the Atlantic Ocean during his tour of duty. During this time, he advanced from a Seaman, Apprentice to Seaman, to a Teleman Third Class.

Just prior to his discharge from the Navy, on April 28, 1953, Teleman Third Class Maynard Gerald Baker was killed in an automobile accident in San Francisco, California. His body was returned to South Dakota and he was buried with military honors at Black Hills National Cemetery.

Maynard had no siblings. He was survived by his mother, Irene Rousey, Rapid City, and his father, George Welsey Baker, Bison.

This entry was respectfully initiated by Erika Carlson, 8th grade, and completed by Mrs. Hansen, Spearfish Middle School, Spearfish, SD, July 14, 2004. Information for this entry was provided by an application for a SD veteran's bonus, the South Dakota National Guard Museum, an obituary from the *Rapid City Journal*, 4/30/53 issue, via Ellen Bishop. Memorial stone photo by Mrs. Hansen. No family contact made.